

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 3, lines 8-14, paragraph 6:

In one aspect of the present invention, a flexible gripping pad is provided which is easily secured to a railing or hand support system by wrapping the grip around the railing or hand support system. The grip may fully cover the railing, or it may be artfully wrapped or it may be partially or fully folded. The grip of this invention will provide a comfortable, resilient gripping surface which will enhance the safety of a railing or hand support system by preventing slipping, hand abrasions or other dangers associated with railings or hand support systems. The grip provides a comfortable, resilient gripping surface ~~without the use of upstanding stems, protrusions, or nibs.~~

Page 7, line 6, paragraph 22:

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view of the grip ~~if~~ of FIG. 2 taken along the line ~~103~~ 3.

Page 7, line 9, paragraph 25:

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view of the grip ~~if~~ of FIG. 4 taken along the line ~~203~~ 6.

Page 9, lines 4-13, paragraph 34:

In one embodiment of grip 100 disclosed in FIG. 3, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 may be tapered in thickness. FIG. 2 discloses a top view of grip 100. FIG. 3 discloses a cross sectional view of grip 100 taken from cross sectional line ~~103~~ 3 of FIG. 2. Tapering the edges of skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 allows for the edges to overlap when wrapping a railing or hand

support system and at the same time to maintain a constant thickness of grip 100 despite the overlapping edges. In another embodiment, the edges are tapered but wrapped in such a way that they do not overlap to provide still more friction for the user. In still another embodiment, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 are not tapered for instances when the edges do not overlap.

Page 11, lines 7-17, paragraph 38:

In one embodiment of grip 200 disclosed in FIG. 4, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable layer 220 may be tapered in thickness. FIG. 5 discloses a top view of grip 200. FIG. 6 discloses a cross sectional view of grip 200 taken from cross sectional line ~~203~~6 of FIG. 5. Tapering the edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable layer 220 allows for the edges to overlap when wrapping a railing or hand support system and at the same time to maintain a constant thickness of grip 200 despite the overlapping edges. In another embodiment, the edges are tapered but wrapped in such a way that they do not overlap to provide still more friction for the user. In still another embodiment, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable layer 220 are not tapered for instances when the edges do not overlap but a consistent thickness of grip is desired.

Page 12, lines 10-20, paragraph 40:

In one embodiment of the method of manufacture of grip 100 disclosed in FIG. 3, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 may be tapered in thickness. FIG. 2 discloses a top view of grip 100. FIG. 3 discloses a cross sectional view of grip 100 taken from cross sectional line ~~103~~3 of FIG. 2. Tapering the edges of

skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 allows for the edges to overlap when wrapping a railing or hand support system and at the same time to maintain a constant thickness of grip 100 despite the overlapping edges. In another embodiment, the edges are tapered but wrapped in such a way that they do not overlap to provide still more friction for the user. In still another embodiment, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 104 and 4-way stretchable layer 112 are not tapered for instances when the edges do not overlap.

Page 13, line 16 to Page 14, line 4, paragraph 42:

In one embodiment of the method of manufacture of grip 200 disclosed in FIG. 4, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable layer 220 may be tapered in thickness. FIG. 5 discloses a top view of grip 200. FIG. 6 discloses a cross sectional view of grip 200 taken from cross sectional line ~~203~~6 of FIG. 5. Tapering the edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable material layer 220 allows for the edges to overlap when wrapping a railing or hand support system with grip 200 and at the same time to maintain a constant thickness of grip 200 despite the overlapping edges. In another embodiment, the edges are tapered but wrapped in such a way that they do not overlap to provide still more friction for the user. In still another embodiment, the lengthwise edges of skin layer 204, backing layer 212 and 4-way stretchable layer 220 are not tapered for instances when the edges do not overlap.